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Letter dated 1 December 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a note verbale presented to the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship on 23 November 2005 (see annex).

I should be most grateful if you could arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 8.

(*Signed*) Emyr **Jones Parry**

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Annex to the letter dated 1 December 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Embassy of the United Kingdom presents its compliments to the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship and has the honour to acknowledge note No. 75/2005 of 27 October 2005.

The United Kingdom has no doubts about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. The United Kingdom reiterates that there can be no negotiations on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands unless and until such time as the Falkland Islanders so wish.

The United Kingdom firmly rejects the Argentine protest concerning the Falkland Islands' fisheries legislation and reiterates that the Falkland Islands Government is entitled to adopt whatever measures it considers necessary to conserve, manage and exploit fish stocks within its waters. Furthermore, the United Kingdom rejects Argentine protests concerning the proclamations of the Falkland Islands' Interim and Outer Conservation Zones; the proclamation of the South Georgia Maritime Zone; and the closure by the Falkland Islands Government of the area between the Falkland Islands' Outer Conservation Zone and the Argentine 200-nautical mile limit.

The United Kingdom is disappointed that this matter is affecting the level of Argentine cooperation on the conservation of fisheries resources under the South Atlantic Fisheries Commission, which is in the mutual interests of all parties.

The Embassy of the United Kingdom takes this opportunity to renew to the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship the assurances of its highest consideration.

British Embassy
Buenos Aires

23 November 2005